

## **FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** April 14, 2017

**Agenda Item:** 2017 CSKT Waterfowl and Upland Game Bird Hunting Regulations

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Endorsement

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 Min

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### **Background**

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) and the State of Montana have entered into a cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Reservation that provides for presentation and approval of Tribal pheasant, gray partridge and waterfowl season frameworks to the Commission. FWP is included in the development of Tribal waterfowl regulations, which are set within federal frameworks in the Pacific Flyway. Tribal recommendations are first presented to the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board, which votes on tentative proposals and opens them to general public review and comment. The board then meets for final adoption. Adopted final proposals are then presented to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council. The Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission endorsement is subject to final Tribal Council approval.

The significant differences between these Tribal regulations and current or proposed FWP regulations are:

- Tribal shooting hours are sunrise to sunset for pheasant and gray partridge for the entire season. Waterfowl shooting hours are sunrise to sunset September 30 - January 1. During January 2 - January 18 shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, the same as FWP's.
- No hunting with falcons on the Flathead Indian Reservation:
- A requirement that only non-toxic shot be used for all game birds on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

### **Public Involvement Process & Results**

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal process includes public comment.

### **Alternatives and Analysis**

None considered at this time.

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

Recommend endorsement of 2017-18 Flathead Indian Reservation pheasant, gray partridge and waterfowl hunting regulations subject to Tribal Council approval.

### **Proposed Motion**

I move the Fish & Wildlife Commission endorse the 2017-18 Flathead Indian Reservation pheasant, gray partridge and waterfowl hunting regulations as presented and subject to final Tribal Council approval.